GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1758
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2008
ADDITIONAL DD CHANNEL FOR NER
Borkataky Shri Narayan Chandra

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether starting of additional Doordarshan (DD) channel for North-Eastern Region (NER) has been delayed;

(b) if so,the reasons for such delay;

(c) the details of funds allocated so far for the purpose;and

(d) the time by which the additional channel is likely to be started for the NER?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a) & (b) As part of North-Eastern (NE) Special Package (Phase II) approved by the Government in May,2006,two NE channels are envisaged to be started.Up-linking of these channels is dependent upon upgradation of the Earth Station at Guwahati.Due to delay in upgradation of up-linking facilities, starting of additional channels of NE got delayed.

(c) Rs.2.09 crores have been sanctioned for the purpose.

(d) As per present indications,the Earth Station is expected to be upgraded for launch of two NE Channels by the end of 2008-09.